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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/820,114 |
| Confirmation Number | 8372 |
| Application Filing Date | April 8, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Yoshihiko IMANAKA |
| Art Unit | 2892 |
| Examiner Name | Trung Q. DANG |
| Attorney Docket Number | 042307 |

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
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| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | 1. | JP | 60-184686 | A | 09-20-1985 | RES DEV CORP OF JAPAN et al. | Abstract |
| | 2. | JP | 59-080361 | A | 05-09-1984 | Chikara HAYASHI et al. | Abstract |
| | 3. | JP | 04-188503 | A | 07-07-1992 | VACUUM METALLURGICAL CO LTD | Abstract |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | 4. | Japanese Office Action dated October 7, 2008 (mailing date), issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application Number 2003-137398. | Full |
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Examiner Signature

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